in tribal language as their general policy and such policy has caused serious setback to the tribal education;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the 42nd report of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minority (CLM) presented to the Parliament, emphasised the need for urgent steps to fill up the huge vacancies of science teachers in Bodo medium schools of Assam and the State Government is unable to fill up those vacancies; and

(c) if so, whether appropriate steps would be taken by his Ministry to resolve the issues in consultation with the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Education being a Concurrent subject, matters like medium of instructions in schools come under the jurisdiction of respective State Governments.

(b) and (c) The 42nd Report of Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities (CLM) has highlighted the shortage of science teachers in Bodo Medium schools in Assam. The filling up of vacancies in Bodo meduim schools in Assam comes entirely in the jurisdiction of the State Government. Ministry of Minority Affairs has, however, requested the Government of Assam to consider lifting of ban on recruitment of teachers and to appoint Shiksha Sahayaks.

National Education Test

2450. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the objective of National Education Test as envisaged in Education Policy;

(b) whether the National Education Test (NET) has been abolished;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is being replaced with more effective mechanism of selection; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) The Government of India in its notification dated 17.06.87 accepted necessity of an All India Merit test to be eligible for lecturship in Colleges/Universities. The UGC in its regulation dated 19.9.91 regarding minimum qualification required of a person to be appointed to teaching staff of the University/ College made such a Test essential criteria for being appointed to the post of Lecturer. The NET was introduced in 1989.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) As per the University Grants Commission (Minimum qualification required for the appointment and career advancement of teachers in universities and institutions affiliated to it) (Second Amendment Regulations, 2006) dated 14.6.2006, National Eligibility Test (NET) shall remain the compulsory requirement for appointment as Lecturer for those with post-graduate degree. However, candidates having Ph.D. degree in the concerned subject are exempted from NET for Post Graduate level and Under Graduate level teaching. The candidates having M.Phil degree in the concerned subject are exempted from NET for UG level teaching only. These Regulations have been framed on the basis of recommendations of an Expert Committee.

Schools enrolment in Uttaranchal

2451. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a low school enrolment, specially in rural areas and hilly areas of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof in rural areas and hilly areas, separately in the State;

(c) the funds allocated for the primary and secondary schools in Uttaranchal during the last two years;

(d) the funds utilized by the State Government; and